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BENNETT PASSES CHAIRMANSHIP OF HIGH-TECH TASK FORCE TO ALLEN

***Utah Republican to continue active role as
high-tech advocate, task force member***

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Bob Bennett (R-Utah), who chaired the Senate Republican High-Tech Task Force in the 106th Congress, today officially passed the baton to the task force's new chairman, Sen. George Allen (VA), and reiterated his commitment to the work of the task force, the high-tech industry and its critical importance to our nation's economy and continued job growth.

"The technological innovations of the Information Age have revolutionized the way we live our lives, and with stunning speed and success also revolutionized the U.S. economy," Bennett said. "But just as this new digital revolution has emerged in our economy and our everyday activities, it has also emerged as a critical issue we must address in the government.

"It's quite clear that excessive government intervention would inflict serious damage to the economic advances of the information revolution. As a task force in particular, and a Congress in general, we must pursue policies that prevent this. In this regard, I have tremendous confidence in turning over the chairmanship of the task force to Sen. Allen and look forward to working with him in his new role. We've enjoyed significant successes in the last Congress and I'm confident this will continue in the current Congress."

In 1999, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott established the Senate Republican High-Tech Task Force and appointed Bennett as its chairman to help guide the Republican leadership's outreach effort to the technology community and advise the Senate on technology issues. During the 106th Congress, the task force enjoyed significant success on high-tech related legislation. Bennett will continue as an active member of the task force supporting the work of Sen. Allen and furthering the important agenda of the high-tech policies.

Through his work on high-tech issues, Bennett has been recognized as High-Tech Legislator of the Year by the Information Technology Industry Council and inducted into the High-Tech Legislators Hall of Fame by the American Electronics Association.

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